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munication and without definition of the mutual rights of would-be users of these agencies, it may soon come to pass that a denial of mutual rights may be the cause of war or of an alliance calculated to cripple in an economic and industrial way the recalcitrant and selfish nation operating for monopolistic ends a given cable or radio line.

The United States at the present time is making a stiff fight for recognition of the principle of mutuality. If it is defeated, it will harden its heart against powers that defeat its purpose, and it will start in to construct its own intercontinental systems of communication, and in the meantime make it as uncomfortable as possible for nations that wish to use American terminals for cable landings and radio stations. The United States is not asking for any of the spoils taken from Germany, but it does not intend to let the Allies, with whom it fought and who are quite willing to take Germany's former property, turn right round and use the resources put within their power to injure the United States and make it a suppliant for their favor in intercontinental business.

DEFLATION AND ITS PRIVATIONS

SOMETIMES POVERTY, or the threat of it, is a blessing. At last the superwealthy United States is beginning to reef its economic sails, tighten its belt, and count its dollars in terms of thousands, not millions or billions. The "plunging" period is over. The wisest men of the nation are sitting down to see how a panic may be avoided. Inflated values are being punctured by the grim necessities of the hour. Prices to the consumer really are falling now, and producers who are hard hit in the process of deflation and because of inability to sell their goods abroad are squealing in their pain and asking Uncle Sam to carry them to an island of economic safety under his arm. If Uncle Sam is wise, he will not do it.

Feeling thus, legislative appropriations are being studied with unusual care, because State and national treasuries are facing deficits. Severest forms of economies are being recommended by officials who study possible sources of income and who can estimate with some degree of accuracy the costs of the essentials of administration that must go on if the State's bare machinery is to function. The call goes forth for elimination of the luxuries and non-essentials; and it is gratifying to see that in New York State, where Governor Miller hints that he will cut down estimates one billion dollars, they are seriously considering scrapping the year-old scheme of compulsory military education

of the State's male youth. War does not seem so essential an industry as it did while we were in it. As to the demand in Congress for a drastic cutting down of naval and military expenditures, we comment in another column. You cannot eat your cake and have it too. You cannot spend billions and then get prosperity by any other plan than by making good the losses through toil and sacrifice.

CANADA EMERGES

CANADA'S EXPERIENCES during the South African War and the recent war have taught her much. She has stopped at no sacrifice of men or wealth to carry out successfully, on a military scale, combats to which she deemed herself morally pledged by her ties as a loyal daughter. Nevertheless, they were sacrifices caused by policies which she had no part in shaping. They proved her obedience to Downing Street—glad obedience if you please so to term it; but they were based on no previous assent of hers to the imperial policies of Mr. Chamberlain in his day or of Mr. Balfour and Mr. Lloyd-George in their day.

The late war, with its grim horrors, the denudation throughout her sparsely settled territory of her finest youth, the huge increase of the national debt, the ceaseless friction with British officials, military and civilian, and the possible implications of the Dominion in later wars—these things sent to the Paris Peace Conference a group of men determined to assert Canadian nationalism as it never had been asserted before. This, ably led by Sir Robert Borden, they proceeded to do.

At the meeting of the Assembly of the League in Geneva now sitting, they have made it clear again that Canada, as a constituent of the British domain, has ceased to be a daughter and has come rather to be a sister. In other words, they have asserted the Canadian point of view in distinction from the British; they have won a place in the League that has made them independent, and they have taught the English and Scotch, as well as the French and the Italians, that the New World of America has bred another and second variety of Anglo-Celt, differing from the kind bred by generations of residence in the islands off the coast of western Europe or in the United States. Precisely as the Canadian troops fought in their own way, so did the Canadian representatives at Paris, and more recently at Geneva, negotiate in their own way.

We doubt whether there has been a more dramatic and significant moment in latter-day British history than when, at the Geneva Conference, Mr. Balfour and Mr. Fisher, of the British Cabinet, sitting in the Council, had to sit and hear themselves, as representatives of